

1. A method for providing collated, face-up printing, said method comprising:

creating a spool data file;

creating a page-independent index file from said spool data file;

manipulating said index file to effect collated, face-up printing; and

executing a print job by accessing said index file.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein said spool data file is a Microsoft Windows Job Description File.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein said manipulation comprises changing the order in which pages are printed.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein said index file comprises print job commands, page commands and page data.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein said index file provides access to at least one Enhanced Metafile (EMF) file.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein said index file provides access to at least one raw format file.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein said manipulation of said index file comprises changing the side of a duplex page on which printing occurs.

8. A method for providing driver-independent, printer-independent collated, face-up printing in a printing system, said method comprising:

creating a spool data file;

5 creating a Page-Independent Spool File (PISF) index file from said spool data file;

allowing manipulation of said PISF index file to effect collated, face-up printing; and

accessing said PISF index file to execute a print job.

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9. A method for providing face-up, collated output in a printing system, said method comprising:

creating a page-independent spool index file;

manipulating said index file to effect face-up, collated output; and

accessing said manipulated index file to execute a print job.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein said creating, said manipulating and said accessing are accomplished through a print processor.

11. The method of claim 9 wherein said creating, said manipulating and said accessing are accomplished through a spooler.

12. The method of claim 9 wherein said creating, said manipulating and said accessing are accomplished through a print assistant between a driver and a printer.

13. A method for adding collated, face-up output capability to a printing system, said method comprising:

initiating a print job for a document;

creating a page-independent spool index file;

modifying said index file to reconfigure said print job to output in a face-up, collated orientation; and

accessing said modified index file, to obtain document formatting information for printing.

14. The method of claim 13 wherein said index file is produced by a print system component in a print system between a driver and a printer.

15. A printing system with driver-independent, printer-independent document

formatting, said system comprising:

a print processor comprising:

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an indexer for creating a page-independent index file;

a modifier for modifying said index file to produce print output in a face-up, collated orientation; and

a reader for accessing said manipulated index file to execute a modified print job.

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16. A computer-readable medium comprising instructions for driver-independent, printer-independent collated, face-up printer output, said instructions comprising the acts of:

creating a page-independent index file;

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manipulating said index file to effect a collated, face-up output orientation; and

accessing said manipulated index file to execute a print job.

17. A computer data signal embodied in an electronic transmission, said signal having the function of driver-independent, printer-independent collated, face-up printer output, said signal comprising instructions for:

creating a page-independent index file;

manipulating said index file to effect a collated, face-up output

orientation; and

accessing said manipulated index file to execute a print job.

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